

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ZANZIBAR 0012

E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJ: TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF ZANZIBAR'S REVOLUTION

1. SUMMARY: TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ZANZIBAR'S REVOLUTION CELEBRATED THIS YEAR AS FAMILY AFFAIR WITH ONLY CONSULAR CORPS REPRESENTING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. RELAXED ATMOSPHERE INCONSISTENT WITH FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JUMBE'S REVOLUTION DAY ADDRESS WHICH DISCLOSED THAT FORMER SULTAN AND COLLEAGUES PLANNING TO INVADE ZANZIBAR WITH UNSPECIFIED OUTSIDE HELP. SAME RELAXED ATMOSPHERE OF PARTICULAR BENEFIT TO CONSULATE IN FURTHERING CONSTRUCTIVE TIES WITH JUMBE AND SENIOR MEMBERS OF ZANZIBAR GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

8. MOST OF ZANZIBAR'S LEADERS, TOGETHER WITH CONSULAR CORPS, CELEBRATED IN PEMBA TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY OF 1964 REVOLUTION, TRAVELLING TO PEMBA JANUARY 9 ABOARD MV MAPINDUZI AND RETURNING ON SAME SHIP JANUARY 14.

3. FEATURED EVENT WAS JANUARY 12 ADDRESS BY FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JUMBE AT CHAKE CHAKE SPORTS GROUND. JUMBE EMPHASIZED GENERAL THEME OF NATION-BUILDING, URGING IMPROVED PERFORMANCE BY ALL ELEMENTS IN THE ECONOMY. SPEECH SINGLED OUT PRC AND INDIA AS TWO COUNTRIES WHICH HAD DONE MOST TO AID DEVELOPMENT.

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4. JUMBE ALSO DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO THE REVOLUTION.

HE URGED VIGILANCE IN DEFENDING IT AND DISCLOSED THAT SINCE 1964 ELEVEN ATTEMPTS HAD BEEN MADE TO OVERTHROW AFRO-SHIRAZI PARTY GOVERNMENT. HE WENT ON TO ANNOUNCE THAT NEW INFORMATION RECEIVED ABOUT ATTEMPTS TO SMUGGLE ARMS INTO ZANZIBAR AND THAT FORMER SULTAN JAMSHID ABDALLAH AND ALEMUSHIN, ONE OF HIS MINISTERS, WERE TRYING TO INVADE ZANZIBAR WITH ASSISTANCE OF "CERTAIN COUNTRIES".

THIS CONTRIBUTED TO MARTIAL ATMOSPHERE OF THIS PARTICULAR EVENT ALREADY ESTABLISHED BY MARCHING OF THOUSANDS OF TROOPS AND PARTY GROUPS WBD WEARING OF MILITARY UNIFORMS BY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBERS, INCLUDING JUMBE.

5. OTHER EVENTS INCLUDED CULTURAL DISPLAYS AND OPENING OF SEVERAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. AMONG THESE WAS CHINESE-BUILT SAWMILL AT WETE. ABOUT 50 CHINESE ON HAND AND THEY UNDERSTOOD TO BE MOST AND PERHAPS ALL OF CHINESE PERSENTLY ON PEMBA.

6. JUMBE MET WITH CONSULAR CORPS JANUARY 13 TO EXPRESS THANKS FOR ATTENDING MAJOR CELEBRATIONS IN PEMBA ON WHAT HE TERMED EXPERIMENTAL BASIS. HE ALSO REVIEWED SOME OF SUCCESSES AND FAILURES IN REVOLUTION'S TWELVE-YEAR COURSE. CONSULS RESPONDED IN TURN.

7. COMMENT: CONSIDER JUMBE'S DISCLOSURE OF INVASION PLOT TO BE RHETORICAL DEVICE TO KEEP AALIVE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT TO AID NATION-BUILDING EFFORT. AM EQUALLY SKEPTICAL ABOUT CLAIM OF ELEVEN ATTEMPTS TO OVERTHROW GOVERNMENT IN LAST TWELVE YEARS. JUMBE AND SENIOR PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN RELAXED STATE DURING PEMBA TRIP AND CLEARLY NOT CONCERNED ABOUT COUNTERING IMPENDING INVASION.

8. PEMBA TRIP VERY VALUABLE TO CONSULATE IN PROVIDING CONSTANT ACCESS TO PARTY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE. TONE OF OCCASION WAS ONE OF FAMILY GATHERING WHICH TO OUR ADVANTAGE IN COMPARISON WITH MOST OTHER EVENTS WHERE POSTURING ON REVOLUTIONARY, ONE-PARTY, SOCIALIST (OR COMMUNIST) SOLIDARITY TENDS TO LEAVE AMERICANS A LITTLE IN THE COLD. AT TRIP'S END, JUMBE CALLED OVER PRINCIPAL OFFICER, WHO PASSING BY CHANCE, TO SIT NEXT TO HIM AT TABLE IN MAPINDUZI DINING ROOM WHERE HE DISCUSSING GOVERNMENT MATTERS WITH SENIOR REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBERS. WHEN THIS BUSINESS CONCLUDED HE EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH PRINCIPAL OFFICER
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ON VARIETY OF SUBJECTS. HE ALSO TOLD PRINCIPAL OFFICER HE NEEDED SOME IDEAS AND ASKED FOR DETAILED EXPLANATION OF PROCESS BY WHICH AMERICANS SELECT PARTY LEADERS AND PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES. HE OBVIOUSLY INTERESTED IN SUBJECT AND FOLLOWED EXPLANATION CLOSELY. WHILE SUBJECT NOT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AS IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT ZANZIBAR WILL CONVERT TO ANYTHING APPROACHING AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM, CONSIDER FACT OF CONVERSATION, ESPECIALLY ITS SPONTANEOUS CHARACTER, A HEALTHY SIGN IN DEVELOPMENT OF OUR RELATIONS WITH

ZANZIBAR.

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